

REGULAR MEETING
September 10, 2008

46 CO RT 11 TOWN HALL
WEST MONROE, NY

Present: Supervisor Gary Ross; Board members Kelley Davis, Michael Hickey
Town Clerk, Christine Shaw, Deputy Town Clerk Louise Herbert
Superintendent of Highways Randall Shaw
Code Enforcement Officer Michael Yerdon
Justice John DeMong
Assessor's Clerk Mary Lesnau
Oswego County Legislator Arthur Gearsbeck
Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Commission
11 people in the audience

Absent: Tim McCarthy and Debra Macdougall

Supervisor Ross called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and everyone pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Mr. Ross then moved to approve the bills as audited:

GENERAL FUND, abstract #9, vouchers #250 to #273 , in the amount of \$9,365.51
HIGHWAY FUND, abstract #9, vouchers #187 to #205 , in the amount of \$48,246.36
BIG BAY SEWER FUND, abstract #9, vouchers #78 to #91 , in the amount of \$4,858.72

Mr. Hickey seconded the motion with a unanimous vote to approve the bills as audited.

Norma Jean Howard, Pinnacle Rd., thanked the town employees for the help they provided to Ray Smith in a time of an emergency. She explained that a bee, which he is very allergic, the shot he had given himself did not seem to work and two highway employees came over and assisted Ray and contacted SOVAC, bit Mr. Smith. Ms. Howard feels that if it were not for the quick and proper response of these two highwaymen and the action of the members of SOVAC Ray Smith would may not have lived through the crisis.

Ross LaComb, Morey Rd., questioned on the progress of the Justice facility. Mr. LaComb remarked that nothing has been brought up about what was happening on this subject the last couple of board meetings and he was wondering what is being done to give the justices permanent facilities. Mr. Ross said that nothing to report at this time.

Doug Fuegel, Breckheimer Rd., explained that Debra Macdougall called him and he fiancé, Bruce Phillips is in the hospital and she apologizes that he is not at the board meeting and asks that if anything comes up, the board wait until she can be in attendance to act on it.

Mr. Fuegel also mentioned that Mr. McCarthy is not at the board meeting again and still feels the town board should do something, send a letter or something to demand his presence or for him to resign.

The board then addressed the **Grunder Variance, 48 Woodworth Rd.** The Grunders are looking to move a new house on their lot (they took the old house down). They would also like to locate the new home more "in line" with the neighbors which creates the need for a variance as they would not have

the 20' side set back required by the town law. Since the new home is larger than the previous existing home, the new home is not on the same "foot print" and would require a variance. The board held a lengthy discussion regarding the problems created by residents placing larger homes on smaller grandfathered lots. Mr. Ross then suggested that the resident try to relocate the home to come into compliance or at least as close as possible. Ms. Davis suggested that since the property is located on the shore of the lake, flood line marks on the map would be helpful. Mr. Hickey also agreed that 10' difference creates a problem in getting in emergency equipment if ever needed. The board agreed to meet again in a couple weeks if Mr. Grunder could get the maps updated.

Collins Variance, 24 Wedgeworth Dr., was next to be addressed by the town board. Mr. Collins presented maps that show existing structures and one with the proposed garage. Mr. Collins explained that he would like to take down the current garage and then build a new garage on the other side of the lot. He said that it would help to line up the building line in the area. Mr. Collins said that he realizes that he does not meet the set backs but he would be moving the building further from his existing home which would create less of a fire hazard for his home. Mr. Collins stated that at the first conference with Code Enforcement Officer Mike Yerdon, the Car Port was considered part of the original footprint of the garage and Mr. Collins would remove the "pan handle" of the building. The board again discussed the problems of the smaller existing lots wanting to update buildings. Mr. Hickey suggested that if Mr. Collins locates the new garage in the same place (using the same foot print to include the car port) as the existing garage is that would not require a variance. Mr. Ross agreed, along with Ms. Davis. Mr. Collins said he would build it where the old one is located.

Next to address the board was Steve Patch, representing the **Master Plan Committee**, who presented the town board with the **Committees recommendations**. Mr. Patch explained that the members of the Committee met every two weeks, were very committed and are excited about what they have learned. Mr. Patch explained that after the committee determined what they felt were the strength and weaknesses of the town and what was needed to insure the proper growth; they found that most all the same work (with the required studies) was done 20 years ago yet nothing was done to take the next step. Therefore the committee requests to stay in force to see the next step of the process through.

Mr. Hickey remarked that he whole-heartedly agrees with what the Master Plan Committee has done. He commends the work they have done and is excited that they want to continue to see this through. Ms. Davis agreed, she commended the group and asked if Mr. Patch could please contact the CNY Regional Planning to come meet with the town board so that board will be able to understand what the Regional Planning can do to help with the process and what the cost would cover. Mr. Ross committed to push and push hard so that the proposal that the Master Plan Committee has submitted gets done.

Next the board addressed the **Shumaker Engineering Proposal for the MS4/Big Bay Sewer Treatment study**. The cost for this study is \$20,000 of which USDA would pay 50% (matching the town's payment). Ms. Davis expressed her desire to have the agreement state that that includes not only the Sewer plant in Big Bay but also the other options at Rt. 49 & 37 as well. Mr. Ross moved to accept the proposal and to use the \$15,000 in the Big Bay Sewer Contingency line to help to pay this cost. Ms. Davis seconded the motion with the stipulation that Shumaker Engineering lists the 4 options they would be looking into. The board then voted unanimously in favor of the motion with the 4 options listed in the agreement.

Mr. Ross made the motion to hold a special meeting to be held on Monday September 22, 2008 at 8:00 PM for the town clerk to present the 2009 Tentative Budget to the town board members. Supervisor Ross also mentioned that Shumaker Engineering will present the fee schedule for the boards review at that Special meeting as well as setting up budget workshops and any other business that comes before the town board. Ms. Davis seconded the motion, with the vote of those board members present unanimously in favor of the Special meeting to be held on September 22, 2008.

Mr. Ross also moved to hold a special meeting on **September 16, 2008 at 8:00 PM to review the Grunder Variance application.** Ms. Davis seconded the motion with unanimous board approval.

West Monroe Assessor Patrick Duffy will be offering and Assessment Seminar to the residents of the town later this year. Mr. Duffy has put together a power point presentation to help residents understand their assessments.

REPORTS:

Planning board minutes of July 2008 and the unapproved minutes of August 2008.

Superintendent of Highways Inventory report was submitted to the town clerk's office on September 1, 2008 as required by law.

Town Clerks monthly report

Superintendent of Highways report that included:

Request for permission to attend the NYS Highway Superintendents Conference in Buffalo, which was approved on a motion by Mr. Ross, seconded by Ms. Davis and unanimously approved by the board

Speed limit reply from Oswego County

Apology to the residents of the town roads that were planned for repair however could not be paved this year due to the unexpected high cost of product.

CORRESPONDENCE

Notification of Tug Hill Commission's meeting to be held at Katie & Karl's in Camden on September 23, 2008

Tug Hill Times

Ft. Brewerton/Greater Oneida Lake Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

Oswego County Tourism & Planning offering Planning Board training

Thank You note from the Pizzeria in Big Bay "Mr.Chubby's" for the assistance of the Code Enforcement Officer in obtaining the paperwork for his beer and wine license from the State of New York

Unified Court System notification of receipt of the Justice Departments grant application

Thank you to the Highway Dept. for the replacement of road signs in the Toad Harbor Area

Response from National Grid regarding the request for installing natural gas lines along State Route 49

Paul Baxter reported no August meeting was held on the OLWSAC and that Tug Hill will be hosting a Local Leaders training in the near future. Also Paul explained that the printer in the Code Enforcement office no longer works. The board agreed that since the CEO budget has \$300 in the equipment line that Mr. Yerdon can get a printer without board approval.

Mr. Baxter also explained that NORCOG will be holding a meeting on October 23 at the West Monroe town hall and will be discussing High Speed Internet community wide.

Mr. Hickey remarked that the highway dept. has done a great job taking care of the Nutting Cemetery.

The regular meeting was closed at 9:15 PM